

**Peculiar Light Giving Animals.**

A peculiar light giving animal found in southern Californian waters is the heteropod. The heteropods, dazzling white and almost shapeless, can often be seen floating on the clear water. Their bodies are almost transparent, and they have in addition to a long tail a powerful sucker, by which they cling to seaweed. When these creatures are irritated they seem to emit a light from all over the body, though one writer describes one in which the light—red in this case—seemed to radiate from the center of the animal. Of all the light giving animals the salpa is said to be the most wonderful. Like the heteropod, this animal is provided with claspers that enable it to fasten to seaweed and rocks. So plentiful are they in Californian waters that the Santa Catalina channel, which is from eighteen to twenty miles wide and about forty-five miles long, is at times literally covered with them as far as the eye can reach. Covering the entire surface and gleaming like gems in the sunlight, they present a beautiful picture. These animals constitute a delicacy much sought for by whales. Some of them shed a silvery light, while others yield blue and others red light.

**Rivers That Flow Backward.**

Near Argostoli, a town on one of the Greek islands, four little torrents of sea water, rolling on an average fifty-five gallons a second, penetrate into the fissures of the cliffs, flow rapidly inland and finally gradually disappear into the crevices of the soil. Two of the water courses are sufficiently powerful to turn all the year round the wheels of two mills constructed by an enterprising Englishman. This seems at first sight absurd on the face of it, but it is quite easily explained. The hills of the island are of soft, calcareous rock, full of fissures, and suck up water like immense sponges. In consequence the pools in their subterranean caverns are always lower than the surrounding sea, so to restore the balance these little brooks, fed by the waves, are always descending inland. The curious yet natural result of the constant evaporation of the sea water is that gigantic masses of salt crystals are constantly forming in the caves.—*Strand Magazine.*

**Straw Rope Swings.**

Korea is perhaps the oldest country in the world, and the customs and actions that go to make up the daily life of the people are not at all governed by the logic or tradition which moves us on our enlightened way. They have no clearly regulated sports, nothing apparently that could be likened to a national game. They pass most of their recreation hours swinging in straw rope swings and seem entirely happy in the sport. The straw rope, if well made, is extremely durable and can stand considerable weight, as may be judged when three able-bodied young men impose their weight upon the swing, standing on the shoulders of one another after the manner of acrobats. It may be very fine pastime, but the average American, it is safe to say, would find in it very little appeal.

**The Old Greek Divorce Law.**

A clergyman was railing against divorce. "We ought to have the divorce law that was enforced in ancient Greece," he said. "If that old Greek clause was tacked to every separation, I am persuaded that divorces would fall off 60 to 70 per cent. This law was that when a man got a divorce he could not under any circumstances marry another woman younger than his ex-wife. An innocent law, a brief law, not much to look at, but how many divorce suits would be nipped in the bud if all husbands knew that after the separation they could not marry younger women than the wives they had cast off?"—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

**Water on the Veldt.**

Water is sometimes very scarce and precious on the South African veldt, according to a writer, who says: "In our veldt cottage we had no well, only large tanks, and about August our condition usually became desperate. If you washed your hands you carried the precious fluid out to pour it on some thirsty plant or vegetable; the bath water the same, part of it being first saved to scrub floors. Cabbage and potato water was allowed to cool and then used for the garden or to wash the dogs in first, so that these waters did three duties."

**Enthusiast to the End.**

An enthusiastic French physician, while dying, made careful observations of his condition, detailing his symptoms to his son and attending physician in order that they might make a record of them. At the very end, when he was on the point of passing away, he surprised the friends at his bedside by saying, "You see I am dying."

**Helped Out.**

The Father—"So you think you can support my daughter? The Suitor—"I'm quite sure I can, sir, if you will help us out. The Father—"I'll help you out all right, all right! Whereupon the suitor dashed madly down the front steps with the father a close second in the race.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

**THE AMERICAN BISON.**

**Millions of Buffaloes Once Ranged the Western Plains.**

The early explorers who describe the buffalo numbers do not give us anything more exact than superlative expressions, such as "countless herds," "incredible numbers," "teeming myriads," "the world one robe," etc. I have endeavored to get at a more exact idea of their numbers.

The total area inhabited by the buffalo was about 3,000,000 square miles. Of this the open plains were one-half. According to the figures supplied me by A. F. Potter of the forest service, the ranges of the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Texas and Oklahoma (a total of about 750,000 square miles, or half of the plains) were, according to the census of 1900, carrying 24,000,000 head of cattle and horses and about 6,000,000 head of sheep. This means that when fully stocked they might sustain a number of buffalo at least equal to the number of cattle and horses. The buffalo had to divide their heritage with numerous herds of mustang antelope and wapiti. On the other hand, a buffalo could find a living where a range animal would starve, many of the richest bottom lands are now fenced in, and we have taken no account of the 6,000,000 sheep. Therefore we are safe in placing at 40,000,000 the buffalo formerly living on the entire plains area.

Their prairie range was a third as large, but it was vastly more fertile—indeed, the stockmen reckon one prairie acre equal to four acres on the plains. Doubtless, therefore, the prairies sustained nearly as many head as the plains. We may safely set their population at 30,000,000. The forest region was the lowest in the rate of population. For its 1,000,000 square miles we should not allow more than 5,000,000 buffalo. These figures would make the primitive number of buffalo 75,000,000.

Many other calculations based on different data give similar or slightly lower totals. From these facts it will appear very safe to put the primitive buffalo population at 50,000,000 to 60,000,000.—*Ernest Thompson Seton in Scribner's.*

**JUSTICE OF THE HEARTH.**

**A Standard That Might Well Be Adopted by All Society.**

Over the dinner table a husband was telling his wife of the financial misdealings of one of their social acquaintances, a wealthy and popular man. He had contrived the ruin of a certain company and its subsequent reorganization, a process which had put money into his pocket and taken money from innocent stockholders.

The husband touched the facts lightly, because he thought that a woman could not be interested in them or understand them in detail. This woman's understanding throughout her husband's narrative was occupied with one or two simple questions.

"Is he to be punished?" she asked. "Punished? How? His conscience won't punish him—indeed, he probably thinks he has obeyed the rules of business. The law technically is broad enough to cover his case, but it is hard to get evidence. You see, the district attorney must—"

"Excuse me for interrupting, dear. Explain that to me later. I think we shall not dine there next Wednesday. I will write a note to Mrs. Berry."

"Not dine there? Why not?"

"Because he is not a fit man to receive in our house or for us to visit."

"But nonsense! He's just as good a fellow, just as respectable!"

"One minute. By your own words you prove that he is a wicked man, taking what is not his. I listened to your story until there could be no doubt that you yourself condemned him by the facts, which I do not understand. If what you say is true he and I meet no more as equals."

And her judgment stood. Of course her neighbors and friends pursued the usual course of accepting a man in social relations whom their husbands distrusted in business.

But the standard of the hearthstone—shall it not some day be the standard of all society?—*Youth's Companion.*

**"Dead" Leaves Not Dead.**

Leaves do not fall from the tree because they are "dead," which we may take as equivalent to saying because they are no longer receiving the constituents of their being from the sap and from the air, but as a consequence of a process of growth which develops just at the junction of the leaf stem with the more permanent portion of the tree, certain corklike cells which have very little adhesion, so that the leaf is very liable to be broken away by influences of wind and changes of temperature and of moisture.

**His Guess.**

"What would you do if you had a million dollars handed you?"

"Well, of course I can't say precisely, but the probabilities are that I'd become mean and grouchy, break away from all my old friends and put in the rest of my life trying to skin mankind out of another million."—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

**The Endless Procession.**

A myriad of men are born. They labor and sweat and struggle for bread; they squabble and scold and fight; they scramble for little mean advantages over each other; age creeps upon them; infirmities follow; shames and humiliations bring down their prides and their vanities; those they love are taken from them, and the joy of life is turned to aching grief. The burden of pain, care, misery, grows heavier year by year; at length ambition is dead, pride is dead; vanity is dead; longing for release is in their place. It comes at last—the only unpoisoned gift earth ever had for them—and they vanish from a world where they were of no consequence; where they achieved nothing; where they were a mistake and a failure and a foolishness. There they have left no sign that they have existed—a world which will lament them a day and forget them forever. Then another myriad takes their place, and copies all they did, and goes along the same profitless road, and vanishes as they vanished—to make room for another, and another, and a million other myriads, to follow the same arid path through the same desert and accomplish what the first myriad and all the myriads that came after it accomplished—nothing.—*From Mark Twain's Autobiography in North American Review.*

**Origin of the Balloon.**

The word balloon means "a large ball." To Montgolfier of Annonay, France, the invention of the balloon is credited. It is said that he was led to turn his attention to balloon making from the following incident: A French laundress, wishing to dry a petticoat quickly, placed it on a basket work frame over a stove. To prevent the heat from escaping by the opening at the top of the petticoat she drew the belt strings closely together and tied them. Gradually the garment dried and became lighter, and as the stove continued to give out heat and rarefy the air concentrated under the basket work frame the petticoat began to move and finally rose in the air. This so astonished the laundress that she ran to her neighbors and asked them to come and witness the strange sight. Montgolfier was among those that came in. The petticoat suspended in midair suggested greater things to him, and he returned home with "something to think about." He at once began studying works on different kinds of atmosphere, and the invention of the balloon was the result.

**No Excuses Accepted.**

French officials are said to be particularly strict in their discipline of tourists. A lately returned traveler tells several more or less apocryphal stories to illustrate the state of affairs. An American lost his footing, slipped down an embankment and fell into a small, shallow pond. As he scrambled, dripping, up the embankment to the footpath he was confronted by an arm of the law.

"Your name? Your address?" demanded this uncompromising person, notebook in hand.

"But I fell," began the astonished American. "I only—"

The man waved his arm. "It is forbidden to bathe in this lake," he said firmly. "I am not here to listen to extenuating circumstances."

**A Quotation.**

A correspondent wrote to a newspaper to ask the author of this couplet:

How much the fool who has been sent to Rome  
Exceeds the fool who has been kept at home!

He had barely written when he answered his own query, having found the source of the lines and how he had misquoted them. They are from Cowper's "Progress of Error" and read:

How much a dunce that hath been sent to Rome  
Exceeds a dunce that hath been kept at home!

We are not sure but that, as is frequently the case with misquotations, the popular version is better than the poet's.—*New York Tribune.*

**Brains of Great Men.**

Brains of great men vary very much. It is found that men of encyclopedic mind have large and heavy brains—Gladstone had to wear a very big hat—with an enormous bed of gray matter and numerous convolutions. On the other hand, men whose genius is concentrated upon one line of thought are of small brain and, consequently have small heads. Newton, Byron and Cromwell were in this class.—*Kansas City Journal.*



Scene from "The Rollicking Girl."

**Shick & Wagner**

—THE BIG STORE—

**A Complete Stock of Fall and Winter Merchandise.**

You can save many dollars by buying *right* and stocks sufficiently large from which you can select suitable for your needs.

**Special for A Week.**

We have secured a line of 10-4 Cotton Blankets which we are offering at a bargain. We could get only one case assorted—Plain White, White with Pink and Blue border, Gray and Tan color. We are offering these **50 cts.** while they last at This means a saving of 20 per cent to you—a good investment.

**A regular 60c Blanket for 50c.**

We have also a complete line of Cotton Blankets 1 1/2 and 1 2-4 in colors and white, 60c, 65c, 75c and \$1.00.

**WOOL BLANKETS.**

An all wool blanket for \$3.25.

**COMFORTS.**

A Laminated Cotton Down Comfort \$1.75 to \$3.50.

**Underwear.**

A complete line of Underwear in all grades. We can supply you with anything you can use.

**Coats, Suits and Furs.**

We have new Coats in Ladies' Misses' and Children's coming in every day. Do not delay your buying. You will need a wrap later, when you will find it very hard to get what you want. Good styles are selling every day.

We have also an unbroken line of Suits yet, but this line will also be broken in sizes shortly. Get your suit now.

**FURS.**

We have just received our Furs and are showing all the newest things in this line. We believe we have the best for the price that the manufacturers of Furs have turned out this year.

**Shick & Wagner**

—THE BIG STORE—

Corner Main and Fifth Streets.

Reynoldsville, Penn'a.

**Meeting of Stockholders.**

You are hereby informed that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Summer-ville Telephone Company will be held at the office of the Company, on Main Street, in the Borough of Summerville, on Wednesday, the 9th day of January, A. D. 1907, at the hour of ten o'clock A. M., for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors for the Company for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before said meeting, and a meeting of the stockholders is hereby called to convene at the general office of the said company on the 9th day of January, 1907, to take action on approval or disapproval of the proposed increase of the capital stock of said company from \$20,000 to \$30,000. And further, that action will be taken to provide funds for increasing the capacity of the plant, improving its system and perfecting its service in such manner and form as may be approved by a majority vote of the stockholders present.

All stockholders are requested to be present and vote to approve or disapprove the above resolutions which have been offered before the Board of Directors, and to be finally passed upon at the stockholders' annual meeting on the date above mentioned.  
Dr. J. K. BROWN, President. Jos. S. HAMMOND, Secretary.

**The Peoples National Bank**

Has age, safety and experience to offer to the citizens of Reynoldsville and vicinity when in need of a modern banking institution. Will also pay a conservative rate of interest on savings accounts, which have excellent withdrawal privileges. Interest computed semi-annually and compounded.

CAPITAL \$100,000.00 :: RESOURCES \$450,000.00

Your business respectfully solicited.

**THE PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK**  
REYNOLDSVILLE, PA.

ESTABLISHED IN 1875. OPEN SATURDAY EVENINGS 7.30 TO 8.30.